



## **National Commission on the Future of the Army**

2530 Crystal Drive, Zachary Taylor Building, Suite 5000  
Arlington, VA 22202

**SUBJECT:** Operational Sub-Committee for the National Commission on the Future of the Army (NCFA) Minutes - 17 JUN 15, Operational Sub-Committee meeting.

**Date:** 17 June 2015

**Time:** 0800 - 1300

**Location:** Taylor Building, Washington, DC

**Format:** Sub-Committee meeting with Operational Sub-Committee Chair and Committee Chair

**Attendees:**

HON Dr. Kathleen Hicks – NCFA Operational Chair

GEN (Ret) Carter Ham – NCFA Operational Member

LTG (Ret) Jack Stultz – NCFA Operational Member / Institutional Chair

MAJ Vinson Morris - ADFO

Mr. Rickey Smith – NCFA Staff Director

Mr. Kerry Schindler – Operational Staff Lead

LTC Edwin Rice – Phase 1 Staff Lead

Mr. Scott Sharp – Phase 1 Assistant Lead

Mr. Jason Southerland- Staff Analyst

**Documents Submitted to Commission:** None at this meeting

### **Meeting Summary**

The Operational Sub-Committee conducted an initial preparatory meeting to discuss the path forward in preparing a response to congress for the NCFA. A summary of the meeting engagement follows:

The NCFA Chairman opened the discussions by asking about the rules governing Subcommittee sessions. The ADFO advised that subcommittee discussions should follow rules similar to Commission sessions with the exception that sub-committee meetings are not subject to the notice and open meeting requirements.

The Subcommittee proposed five overarching questions to address in the final subcommittee report. The Operational Subcommittee Chair described the path the Subcommittee will follow to prepare the final subcommittee report. The Staff Director informed the Subcommittee they have the support of IDA and Rand to provide analytical assistance for specific questions if desired. The Operational Subcommittee Chair agreed to attend a meeting 22JUNE2015 (0900-

**SUBJECT:** Operational Forces Sub-Committee for the National Commission on the Future of the Army (NCFA) Minutes - 17 JUN 15, Operational Forces Sub-Committee preparatory meeting.

1100) with IDA. An NCFA Member asked about how specific the Operational Subcommittee final proposals would and should be. The Chairman warned the group that minus the Apache attack helicopter; they likely lack the time and analytical tools to develop specific force structure numbers. The group agreed they should consider Homeland Defense and Security factors related to force structure. An NCFA Member suggested the group consider defining Operational vs. Strategic objectives. He also asked the group to provide a historical perspective including the history of the multi-component force and insight into improving Total Force integration. A broad cross section of topics to be explored includes:

1. What principles should guide multi-component integration?
2. How feasible is it to generate force structure?
3. What does the term “Expansible” force mean?

The Chair asked the Operational Staff Lead to capture the variables involved in making an expansible force and to address “Stationing of Forces” in the broad sense. After the Chair provided some initial guidance, the discussion shifted to risk identification, definition, and mitigation.

The meeting closed with discussion on people and organizations the Subcommittee should engage. A subcommittee member recommended the group contact the National Security Council to discuss risk. The Operational Subcommittee Chair recommended the Subcommittee coordinate and lead a group of external experts who can share their thoughts on the future Army operating environment (through 2025) and the range of potential Army missions.